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Reply to Office Action of July 2, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): An optical information medium, comprising a supporting substrate, an information-recording surface provided on the supporting substrate and a light-transmitting layer provided on the information-recording surface, wherein:

the light-transmitting layer comprises a light-transmitting sheet formed of a resin and an adhesive layer containing pressure-sensitive adhesive for bonding the light-transmitting layer to an associated side of the information-recording surface; and

the light-transmitting sheet is formed of one resin selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyarylate and cyclic polyolefin.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein said adhesive layer comprises a transparent acrylic resin.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the light-transmitting sheet is prepared by casting.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the light-transmitting layer has a thickness of 30 to 300 μ m.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the adhesive layer has a thickness of 5 to 70 μm .

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Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 11, wherein the adhesive layer has a thickness of 10 to 50 μ m.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the light-transmitting sheet is formed of polyarylate, which is non-crystalline.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 13, wherein said polyarylate is a condensation polymer of bisphenol A and terephthalic acid.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the light-transmitting sheet is formed of cyclic polyolefin.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 15, wherein said cyclic polyolefin is based on a norbornene compound.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 16, wherein said cyclic polyolefin is produced by ring-opening polymerization and hydrogenation of norbornene monomer.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The crystal information medium of Claim 7, wherein the light-transmitting sheet is formed of polycarbonate.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the supporting substrate has a thickness of from 0.2 to 1.2 mm.

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Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A process of fabricating the optical information medium of Claim 7, which comprises the steps of:

- a) binding a light-transmitting sheet larger than said supporting substrate to an associated side of said supporting substrate with an adhesive layer containing a pressure-sensitive adhesive; and
- b) cutting off a region of said light-transmitting sheet that is unbonded to said supporting substrate by laser processing;

wherein the light transmitting sheet is formed of one resin selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyarylate, and cyclic polyolefin.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A method of recording information, which comprises contacting an information recording surface of the optical information medium of Claim 7, with recording light or reproducing light or both.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive in an acrylic resin, silicone resin or a rubber material.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive is an acrylic resin.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 7, wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive comprises a double-sided adhesive sheet.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The optical information medium of Claim 24, wherein said double-sided adhesive sheet is coated with an acrylic resin adhesive agent.